THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, but it is not known whether there were over five thousand workers.

(b) The demands and Government's reaction is as under :

(1) Regularisation of daily rated mazdoors.

Regularisation is being done as per existing instructions of Department of Personnel & Training and against the vacancies as and when they arise.

(2) Two instalments of interim relief.

Revision of wages is done once in a year for casual labours in the month of April taking into account the changes in price index in DA, ADA, IR, etc.

(3) Bonus on par with other P&T employees.

Bonus is being paid to casual labours as per their eligibility .

(4) Grant of facilities available to other P&T employees, such as uniform medical treatment, casual leave etc. The casual labours are not eligible for the facilities mentioned above which are admissible for only regular P & T employees.

The P & T Dispensaries render medical aid to casual labours in those cases where they sustain any injury while on duty at places where P&T dispensaries are functioning subject to the following conditions:

(i) Medical aid is provided only in cases where the mazdoor is injured in the course of discharge of his departmental duties;

(ii) Only outdoor treatment for which facilities are available at the dispensary at the time is provided on a reference to the dispensary by the officer who engaged the mazdoor for work;

(iii) No reimbursement is allowed in any case on account of medicines if any purchased and X-ray tests, operation etc. for which facilities are not provided for at the P&T Dispensaries.

(iv) No recovery on account of cost of medicines etc. supplied to the *majdoor* from the P&T Dispensaries is made from the compensation that may become payable to him under the Workmen's Compensation Act for the injury sustained.

(5) Skilled and semi-skilled worker to be absorbed in the respective skilled and semi-skilled categories after regularisation.

Provision in recruitment rules has been made wherever possible to give preference while recruitment for corresponding semi-skilled/skilled workers.

Allotment of flatted factories at Rani Jhansi Road, New Delhi

212. DR. H.P. SHARMA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the premises for about 370 flatted factories have been constructed in the Jhandewalan complex in New Delhi;

(b) if so, what criteria has been laid down or adopted and what procedure is being followed for the allotment thereof; and

(c) whether any complaints about irregularities in their allotment have been received from some Metropolitan Councillors and other public representatives; if so, what were the precise allegations made in this regard and the result of the probe, if any, made into these allegations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As reported by Delhi Administration the allotment was to be made through public draw of lots conducted by independent judges which was duly publicised in the daily newspapers.

(c) As reported by Delhi Administration, a letter was received by them from leader of opposition in the Metropolitan Council requesting that the policy of allotment be made public before screening the applications and that there had been certain allegations that some touts were demanding huge sums of money for allotting flatted factories. Since the procedure for allotment was by public draw of lots conducted by independent judges and since no specific instance of demand of money was brought to notice, it was not consi dered necessary to hold an enquiry into the allegations.

Decline in the industrial growth

213. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rate of industrial growth in the country has been declining during the current year;

(b) if so, how far the actual rate of industrial growth is lower than that projected in the budget; and

(c) what are the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) According to CSO Index of Industrial Production, the rate of Industrial growth during April-August, 1985 was 6.3 per cent as against 8.0 per cent during the corresponding period last year and a similar average annual rate of growth envisaged in the Seventh Five Year Plan (1985--90).

The rate of industrial growth during the current financial year would have been higher but for lower rate of growth in electricity & mining sectors and certain factors such as infrastructural constraints, under utilisation of capacities, inadequate technological upgradation, etc.

Gas Leakage in Calico Industries, Bombay

214. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR *BIRLA* :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that gas leakage accident took place at Calico Industries Chembur, Bombay on August 30, 1985, in which at least one person was killed and about 150 others including a Member of Parliament were injured and hospitalised due to serious air pollution;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what was the cause of the accident and what are the details of medical treatment and other relief provided to the victims;

(c) whether any inquiry into the lapse in respect of the safety measures in the said factory was conducted to prevent such accident in future; and

(d) if so, with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) to (d) According to the information received from the Government of Maharashtra, as a result of leakage of chlorine gas out of the storage tank of M/s. ILAC Limited at Chembur, one person died and 139 persons were admitted